

## **Keeping Up the Momentum: Together We Can Keep Teen Birth Rates Falling**

### **The Big Picture**

U.S. teen birth rates continue to decline.<sup>1</sup>

- 2000 – 48 per 1,000
- 2005 – 40 per 1,000
- 2011 – 31 per 1,000 (15 to 19 year olds)

### **What's Driving Rates Down?**

- Some advocates say teen birth rates may have dropped because fewer teens are having sex and more are using contraception.
- Fewer teens are having sex: In 2011, over half [52.6 percent] of teens had never had sexual intercourse <sup>2</sup>
- In 2011, 78 percent of sexually active females and 85 percent of sexually active males used some form of contraception <sup>3</sup>
- Since 1995, girls reported greater use of hormonal contraceptives (other than the pill) like shots and the patch <sup>4</sup>
- 1995: 7 percent
- 2002: 9.1 percent
- 2006 – 2010: 12.2 percent
- Since 1988, increasing numbers of boys reported using condoms the last time they had sex <sup>5</sup>
- 1988: 55.3 percent
- 1995: 63.9 percent
- 2002: 70.7 percent
- 2006 – 2010: 74.7 percent

### **Work is still needed**

- The U.S. teen pregnancy, birth, sexually transmitted disease and abortion rates are substantially higher than those of other western industrialized nations <sup>6</sup>
- And in 2012, some states still had high birth rates per 1,000 including:<sup>7</sup>
- New Mexico – 47.5 per 1,000
- Oklahoma – 47.3 per 1,000
- Mississippi – 46.1 per 1,000
- Arkansas – 45.7 per 1,000

- Texas – 44.4 per 1,000
- Even with the declining teen birth rates there are disparities among various racial and ethnic groups<sup>8</sup>
- More than half (57 percent) of all U.S. teens who gave birth in 2011 were black or Hispanic

### **Prevention Is Key**

- 9.4 Billion: The 2010 cost of teen pregnancy and childbirth<sup>9</sup>
- 125 Million: Appropriated to the Family and Youth Services Bureau for prevention efforts in 2010
- Teen parents may have a tougher time getting an education and making a living<sup>10</sup>
- 90 percent: women who received their high school diploma by age 22
- 50 percent: teen mothers who received their high school diploma by age 22
- Teenage fathers are 25 to 30 percent less likely to receive a high school diploma by age 22 than similar young males who did not become fathers as teens<sup>11</sup>

### **FYSB's Response**

- We take a holistic approach to educating youth on pregnancy prevention by implementing evidence-based models, adulthood preparation subjects and other youth development programming that supports healthy transitions to adulthood while addressing risky behaviors. The Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (APP) Program's State Personal Responsibility Education Program will have reached an estimated 300,000 young people by September 2014. APP's comprehensive and abstinence-only programs reach thousands more teens, including Native American teens, foster youth, homeless youth and teen parents
- Logo: TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH
- PREP Teens for the Future
- <http://acf.hhs.gov/teenpregnancy>

### **Sources:**

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